GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1565
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2016
Encroachment on Forest Land
Sonker Smt. Neelam

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rapid climate change has been taking place in the country due to encroachment on forestland;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of the forest area in the country along with the names of the places where the maximum encroachments have taken place;
(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check forest encroachment; and
(e)the details of the incentives being given by the Government to increase the forest cover and the financial assistance granted so far for the said purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) & (b) No study has so far come to the notice of the Ministry regarding rapid climate change in the country due to encroachment on forest land.
(c) The State-wise details of forest area encroached as reported by State Governments is given in Annexure-I.
(d) To prevent fresh encroachments various measures are taken by the State Forest Departments such as setting up of check posts, barriers, use of modern technology (that includes wireless network, remote sensing, Geographical Information System, Information Technology, use of Global Positioning System (GPS) and Differential GPS), improved mobility of the field staff by providing vehicles for patrolling, survey and demarcation of forest areas and construction of boundary pillars. Local communities are also involved in conservation, protection and management of forests through Joint Forest Management Committees/ Village level committees. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the States/UTs in protection and management of forests through Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Intensification of Forest Management Scheme.
(e) Funds are released to State Governments under the schemes namely National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and Green India Mission (GIM) for the purpose of increasing the forest cover in the Country. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the States/UTs in protection and management of forests through Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS). The details of funds released in last two years under these schemes are given in Annexure-II.